Zapruder

JFK assassination records appeals Harold Weisberg 10/18/79
Photographs - Zapruder's 8 mm movies and slides made from it

You will recall that I asked the FBI to make an appointment for me to examine its photographs relating to the Kennedy assassination, that the FBI made no response, that I then requested copies of all such photographs and again there was no response, after which I appealed & and to this you also have made no response in more than a year.

Perhaps the most famous of those photgraphs and by general agreement the most important is the 8mm motion picture film made by the late Abraham Zapruder. I believe that I have written more about it and studied more than anyone else.

Time, Inc., which reverted them to Zapruder's family, held the rights at the time of the Commission and the FBI's work relating to the film for the Commission. Time, Inc., provided three sets of 35 mm slides made from the original of the 8mm footage. Black-and-white prints were made for the Commission by the FBI. According to the Commission's transcripts of testimony there were 134 such individual slides. This is the number of slides provided by the FBI published by the Commission in black and white. When I published that I had reason to believe there were 143 rather than 134 and so informed the Archives the other nine slides were added to the exhibit of them available for study at the Archives. This, of course, did not overcome the defect, that they were not available to many more people in the Commission's published books. They were also denied to those who made the earlier studies of this footage.

Now I find that in fact Time provided the FBI with ~~169~~ 169 slides from the film. This is stated in 62-109060-2993, a Hoover to Rowley (Secret Service Director) letter drafted by LLS, the initials of Lyndal L. Shaneyfelt. He happens to have been the one responsible for this area of the photographic work and the one who connived with FBIHQ in plotting a spurious libel suit to "stop" me over my writing.

Of course I want copies of these slides. They are included in my above-cited request and the appeal on which you have not acted. They are important in any study, more so in connection with the shooting and the number of shots, still in controversy.